

## FALL COLOR REPORT 9/24/12 for E-Mail

Welcome to Iowa's fall color report from the State Forest Nursery. This recording was made Monday, September 24, 2012.

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### Bob Honeywell

**In Northeast Iowa:** The maples are turning, and despite the windy, wet weather, things are beginning to look pretty colorful. Ash, cottonwood, elm, walnut, sumac and hickory are all starting to change. Most of the oaks are still green, so it will be a couple of weeks until we get to the peak of color. Sunny weather is predicted for most of the week, so color development should be good. We are probably looking at the peak around the first weekend in October.

### John Byrd

**In Southeast Iowa:** There is not much to report right now. Some white ash are showing hints of purple and cottonwoods are beginning to turn yellow. There are a few sumac plants changing color and walnut trees are losing leaves with very little yellow color. Predicted peak date is around Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>.

### Joe Herring

**In North Central Iowa:** Fall color changes are beginning to appear all throughout north central Iowa in the woodlands and the roadsides. The sumac and woodbine are showing varying shades of red. Hickory, walnut, ash, elm and cottonwood are turning yellow. From a distant landscape vantage, you can really see the maples beginning to turn shades of orange in the Des Moines, Skunk, and Cedar River valleys. The peak will probably be around the weekend of October 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>.

### George Warford

**In Central Iowa:** Everything but the oaks is changing. All the maples, especially the red, are showing color. Walnut, green ash, hickory, elm, cottonwood and poplar are all showing shades of yellow. Peak will probably be around the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of October.

### Jessica Flatt

**In South Central Iowa:** Colors are starting to show in this area. Yellows are bright in the walnut, hickory, green ash, elm and other early turning species. White ash trees are turning a nice purple. Poison ivy, sumac and virginia creeper are bright red. There are a few maples in town that are showing some fall color but this is due to drought stress. The oaks are staying green so far, so the peak should occur around the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> week in October.

### Joe Schwartz

**In Northwest Iowa:** There is not much color out yet. Only in the small areas do they have some green ash changing to a yellow color. A very small number of amur maple in peoples' yards are changing to reds and oranges. The peak time should be during the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> week of October.

### Brent Olson

**In Southwest Iowa:** There is more ash and elm showing some yellow and that's the only change since last week. Corn and beans are yellowish brown. Some leaves on elms and hickories are turning brown and dropping. Sumacs have dropped their leaves. No other changes happening yet.

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The State Forest Nursery is offering seedlings for fall and spring planting. If you would like to receive a brochure, please call the nursery at 800/865-2477. You may also view our brochure and order on-line at [www.iowatreeplanting.com](http://www.iowatreeplanting.com).